

# Former Offender finds Success as a Barber

*Fall 2015*

Jeffrey Mason, a Siler City native, graduated from High School in 1992. At a young age he made some serious mistakes and ended up incarcerated for 10 years. While incarcerated, Jeffrey set some educational and career goals that he wanted to accomplish once he was free. He also made up in his mind that he would disassociate himself from his former friends.

After being released, Jeffrey was met with a lot of obstacles, especially when it came to obtaining sustainable employment. It was tough, and sometimes he considered giving up, but with the support of his mother and brothers he found the courage to begin exploring various career options and training programs. It was then that he decided to become a Barber.



Mr. Mason came to the WIA Program in Chatham County requesting career planning guidance and financial assistance with completing a Barbering training program. His Case Manager, Keisha Nettles assisted him with enrolling into training at the Alamance Barber Institute in Burlington, NC in November 2013. Since then, Jeffrey has worked extremely hard and did a great job completing all of his classwork and tests, as well as the paperwork needed for WIA. Jeffrey completed his training in February 2015, earned his state license, and obtained fulltime employment at the Fade Factory Barbershop in Charlotte, NC. Jeffrey is now earning sustainable wages in a profession that he loves, and both his family and case manager are very proud of his many accomplishments.